### **SEVIS User Guide**

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#### **General Information**

The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) Portal is an important tool that lets students on post-completion optional practical training (OPT) and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) OPT meet their legal reporting requirements. Students are responsible for reporting:

- Changes to their address and phone number.
- Changes to their employment.

Students can use the SEVP Portal to report these changes, or they can ask a designated school official (DSO) report it for them. DSOs cannot limit a student's access to the portal. You can require students to use the portal.

While DSOs cannot access the Portal, they are still very important to the students. They can:

- Request that the Initial Portal Account Creation email be re-sent.
- Unlock a student's Portal account.



- Change the student's email which the Portal uses for account management.
- Update a student's address, phone number, and employer information.
- Access a downloadable report to see what data was changed by students using the Portal.
- Identify students with Portal accounts.

### **Data Flow between SEVIS and the SEVP Portal**

The Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) and the Portal share data:

- Student-changed data is passed from the Portal to SEVIS immediately.
- DSO-changed data is passed from SEVIS to the Portal once a day.

#### **Available Student Actions in the Portal**

Students can take limited actions in the Portal. They can:

- Update their physical home addresses.
- Update their mailing addresses.
- Update their telephone numbers.
- Update employers' information.
- Monitor their employment authorization.



Students cannot access SEVIS.

#### **Create a Portal Account**

There are four basic steps for creating an account in the SEVP Portal:

Step	Player	Action
Step 1	SEVIS	When the status of an OPT request in SEVIS changes to "Approved," SEVIS sends the following OPT-related student data to the SEVP Portal:
		SEVIS ID
		Email address
		Biographic Information:
		<ul> <li>Given name</li> </ul>
		o Surname
		<ul> <li>Date of birth</li> </ul>



Step	Player	Action			
		Contact Information:			
		<ul> <li>U.S. physical address</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>U.S. mailing address</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>U.S. and foreign telephone number</li> </ul>			
		Information on the OPT Authorization:			
		<ul> <li>Type of OPT authorization</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Whether the authorization is full-time or part-time</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Status of the OPT authorization</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Dates of the OPT authorization</li> </ul>			
		Employer information:			
		<ul> <li>Employer Identification Number (EIN)</li> </ul>			
		o Employer name			
		o Employer address			
		<ul><li>Student's job title</li></ul>			
		<ul> <li>Supervisor's name</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Supervisor's telephone number</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Supervisor's email address</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Whether the job is full-time or part-time</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Start date with the employer</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Last day of employment with the employer</li> </ul>			
		Relation of the job to the field of study			
Step 2	Portal	The Portal emails the student with instructions for creating their Portal			
		account:			
		Email contains a link the student must use to create the account.			
		Link is unique to the student.			
Step 3	Student	Clicks the link.			
		Creates a password.			
		<b>Note:</b> The student's email address will be the student's user name.			
Step 4	Portal	Establishes the account.			

Students who do not receive the email with their unique link should:

- Check their spam or junk mail folders.
- Contact their DSO. DSOs are able to request that the Portal re-send the email.



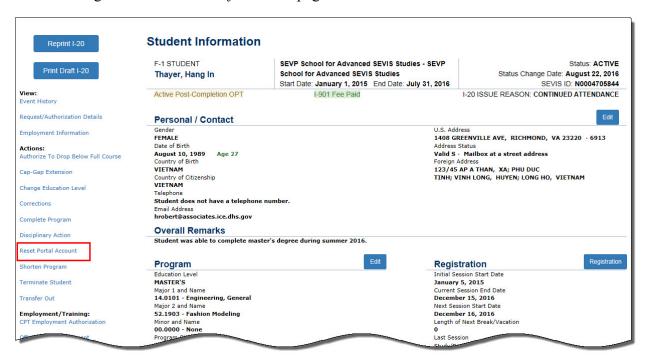


DSOs should check the accuracy of the email address before submitting the request.

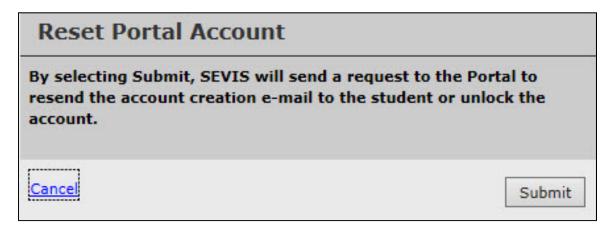
### **Request Resending of the Initial Account-Creation Email**

To request the SEVP Portal resend the Initial Account Creation email:

1. Navigate to the *Student Information* page.



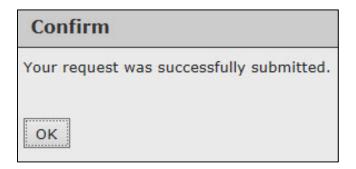
2. Click **Reset Portal Account** link under the Actions menu on the left side of the page. The *Reset Portal Account* modal opens.





#### 3. Click either **Cancel** or **Submit**:

- Cancel: Closes the modal without requesting the Portal resend the account creation email.
- **Submit:** Sends the request to the SEVP Portal. A *Confirm Request Successfully Submitted* message displays.





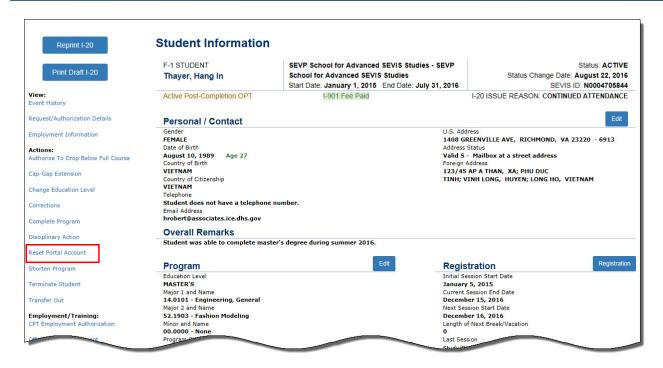
The student must click the link in the email and finish the steps for creating the account.

### **Unlock a Student's Portal Account**

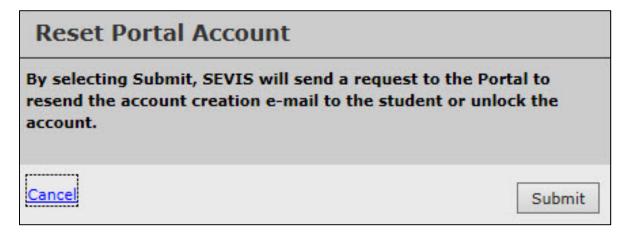
The SEVP Portal will lock a student's account, if the student fails to enter the proper password three times. To unlock a student's Portal account:

1. Navigate to the *Student Information* page.





2. Click **Reset Portal Account** link under the Actions menu on the left side of the page. The *Reset Portal Account* modal opens.



- 3. Click either Cancel or Submit:
  - Cancel closes the modal without requesting the Portal unlock the account.
  - **Submit** sends the request to the Portal. A *Confirm Request Successfully Submitted* message displays.







The student must click the link in the email and change the password for the account.

### **Change Student Email Address**

Students cannot change the email address associated with their Portal account. DSOs must update the student's email address in SEVIS. When the SEVP Portal gets the updated email address, the Portal:

- Locks the student's account.
- Sends the student an email containing a unique link, which the student must use to verify the new email address.
- Unlocks the account once the student verifies their email address.

## **Update Student's Address, Contact Information, and Employer Information**

DSOs can update the student's information using the following processes in SEVIS:



- Update Personal Information
- Add, Edit, Delete OPT Employer

SEVIS sends changed data to the Portal once a day. The student will be able to see the updated data the next day.

## Access a Downloadable Report to See What Data Was Changed By Students Using the Portal

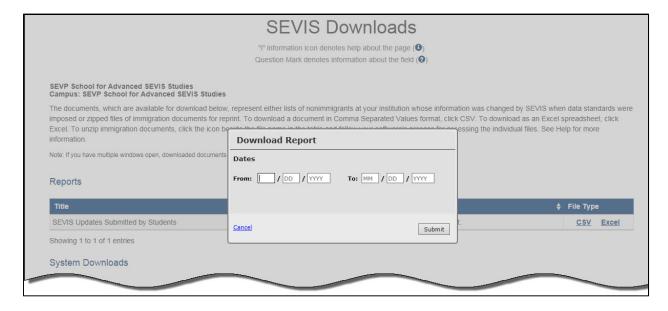
DSOs can download a report in SEVIS to monitor what data- students have changed via the Portal. To access the downloadable report:



1. Navigate to the *Downloads* page.



- 2. Locate the SEVIS Updates Submitted by Students report.
- 3. Click either **CSV** or **Excel** to start the download process. The *Download Report Dates* modal opens.



- 4. Enter the date range for the period of time you want the report to cover.
- 5. Click either Cancel or Submit:
  - Cancel: Closes the modal without requesting the report.



- **Submit**: Sends the request to the Portal.
- 6. SEVIS opens the report, which contains the following data fields:
  - Surname/Primary Name
  - Given Name
  - SEVIS ID
  - U.S. Mailing Address 1
  - U.S. Mailing Address 2
  - U.S. Mailing City
  - U.S. Mailing State
  - U.S. Mailing Postal Code
  - U.S. Mailing Routing Code
  - U.S. Physical Address 1
  - U.S. Physical Address 2
  - U.S. Physical City
  - U.S. Physical State
  - U.S. Physical Postal Code
  - U.S. Physical Routing Code
  - Foreign Address 1 (Not editable in the Portal)
  - Foreign Address 2 (Not editable in the Portal)
  - Foreign City (Not editable in the Portal)
  - Foreign State Province (Not editable in the Portal)
  - Foreign Country (Not editable in the Portal)
  - Foreign Postal Code (Not editable in the Portal)
  - U.S. Telephone
  - Foreign Telephone Country Code
  - Foreign Telephone
  - No Telephone Declaration (Not editable in the Portal)
  - Email (Not editable in the Portal)
  - SEVIS Employer ID (This is a number assigned by SEVIS. It does not have any meaning outside of SEVIS and the Portal. This field is not editable in the Portal.)
  - EIN (Employer Identification Number)





The Employer Identification Number is a unique number the Internal Revenue Service assigns to an employer.

- Employer Name
- Employer Address 1
- Employer Address 2
- Employer City
- Employer State Code
- Employer Postal Code
- FT/PT [Full-Time/Part-Time]
- Employment Start Date
- Employment End Date
- Supervisor Last Name
- Supervisor First Name
- Job Title
- Supervisor Email
- Supervisor Telephone
- Supervisor Telephone Extension
- Date of Update from Portal



Refer to the <u>SEVIS Downloads</u> article for detailed instructions on how to use the download function in SEVIS.

### **Identify Students with Portal Accounts**

SEVIS offers DSOs the following tools to identify which students have SEVP Portal accounts:

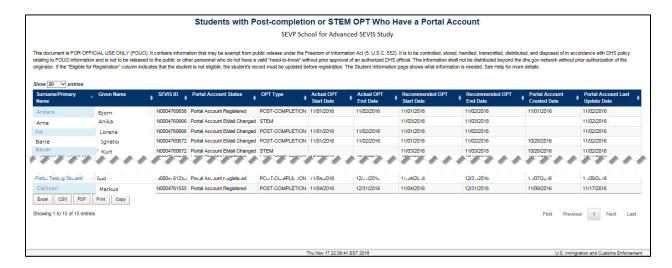
- Alert List: Students with Post-completion or STEM OPT who have a Portal Account
- Indicator on the *Student Information* page

### Alert List: Students with Post-completion or STEM OPT Who Have a Portal Account

SEVIS provides an alert list to help DSOs monitor student with Portal accounts.

December 16, 2016





The alert contains the following columns:

- Surname/Primary Name
- Given Name
- SEVIS ID
- Portal Account Status
- OPT Type
- Actual OPT Start Date
- Actual OPT End Date
- Recommended OPT Start Date
- Recommended OPT End Date
- Portal Account Created Date
- Portal Account Last Update Date



Refer to the <u>Alerts and Lists</u> article for detailed instructions on sorting and exporting this alert.

### **Portal Account Indicator**

SEVIS displays an indicator on the *Student Information* page when a student has an active Portal account.





### **Icon Guide**

See the <u>SEVIS Help Icons</u> on the SEVIS Help Hub for a quick-reference of the icons used in this user guide.

### **Document Revision History**

Date	Revision Summary
December 16, 2016	Initial Release